

**February 20, 2025**



**MISSION STATEMENT**

*Called into community by the Spirit, we worship our Creator in the reformed tradition.  
We proclaim God's love by welcoming all seeking to know and serve Christ  
and to join us as we share His love in the community.*

**VISION STATEMENT**

*Continuously creating a vital congregation of faith, open to all,  
as we worship God, and boldly answer Christ's call to service.*

**Sunday, February 23, 2025**

Sunday School for All Ages 9:00am

Worship: 10:15 am

**Sunday, March 2, 2025**

Sunday School for All Ages 9:00am

Worship: 10:15 am

## News from Pastor:

My Dear Church Family,

In the past few weeks I have heard from many of you who are distressed by the division in our country and the potential division in our church, due to widely differing political views. Below you will find a prayer for our country and its leaders taken from the PCUSA *Book of Common Worship*. May we remember that we are first and always children of God and called to live as such.

*"You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your mind, and with all your strength. And you will love your neighbor as yourself." Mark 12:29-31.*

Almighty God,

Your glory shines throughout the world.

We commend our nation to your merciful care, that we may live in your peace and be guided by your wisdom.

Be with those who hold office in our government, that they might know your will and do it; that they may do their work in a spirit of kindness and wisdom. Help them to use their authority to serve faithfully for the general welfare of your people.

Help us also, to live by your will and to be good citizens, respecting our neighbors whose views differ from ours.

We ask all of this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For those of you who might like an opportunity to discuss how to navigate division and disconnection, the following is a great opportunity. Please note that this event coincides with Game Night on Friday night and ends just prior to the memorial service for Michelle Girard's dad. I will be slipping out of the event a bit early. Please see me if you have any questions.

## Conspiring to Build Courageous Relationships | Leadership Summit

In the wake of **COVID-19 and an increasingly tense political climate**, many church leaders are grappling with **disconnection, division, and uncertainty** in their congregations, in their families, in their presbyteries. We are living with cultural vertigo and trying to find connection. People are exhausted, communities feel fragmented, and meaningful engagement seems harder than ever.

As pastors and church leaders, how do we rebuild **trust, and deepen authentic connections** that nourish our communities and souls in a time when people are weary, overwhelmed, fearful, or disengaged?

**Join us for Conspiring to Build Courageous Relationships**, the Denver Presbytery Leadership Summit, where we'll explore:

✦ **Navigating Conflict & Division** – Move beyond tension and polarization.

✦ **Building Trust & Engagement** – Learn tools to connection in a fractured world.

◆ **Leading with Clarity & Resourcefulness**— Strengthen your leadership and your community in uncertain times.

This is more than a summit—it's a space to **reflect, grow, and find renewed purpose** in leading **faithful, connected communities**. It takes deep courage to connect in uncertainty. **You are not alone**. We can do this together.

### **COST and FOOD**

Dinner will be available on Friday evening during the summit. A light breakfast Saturday morning and lunch Saturday. The cost for food, registration and presenters are subsidized by your per capita dollars. Our hope is the cost will not deter you from coming and experiencing this amazing summit. For those with food sensitivities or a limited budget, a "no meal" registration option is available.

**ONLY \$40 per person! Limited budget or no meal option available for \$20 per person.**

*REGISTRATION ENDS MARCH 7th!*

**Don't miss this amazing opportunity, register today!**

**go to [denpres.org](https://denpres.org), scroll down to *Featured Events*, and click on**

***Conspiring to Build Courageous Relationships / Leadership Summit***

### **News from Session:**

Session is calling a special meeting of the congregation on Sunday, February 23, following worship, to receive a recommendation from Session concerning an opportunity to sell 1.65 acres of land, previously agreed upon by the congregation to list for sale.

We have received an offer of \$395,000 for this parcel. The buyer proposes at their cost, to conduct a survey and seek approval from the City of Aurora to separate these 1.65 acres from St. Paul's property for future development. After separation, the buyer plans to develop the new parcel in compliance with City of Aurora zoning and building codes. Currently our property is zoned R2 which limits development to single family units and certain attached housing units. The developer clearly understands the current zoning requirements. The previous offer we received last year was turned down as the developer was imposing a number of unacceptable conditions to the sale that adversely affected St. Paul.

Session believes that accepting this offer would provide significant financial security for St. Paul by reducing our mortgage and giving us additional funding for our current programs.

## TRANSITIONAL TEAM

### A great opportunity to be involved in what happens next at St. Paul

On Thursday evening, February 13<sup>th</sup>, Session met with a representative of the Presbytery's Ministry Relations Committee. One of the first steps they suggested for us is to create a Transitional Team. This group of approximately six people will be responsible for overseeing this time of transition. This would include gathering input and information from the congregation to help determine what direction St. Paul would like to go and, based on that, what we would like to see in our next pastor. When the new pastor comes, this group would then meet with her or him for a period of time to continue to help make the transition go smoothly. Ideally, this team would include 2 elders, 2 deacons, and 2 members at large. If you think you might like to be a part of this very important group, please see Dave Goss or Pastor Kim. Please note – this team is NOT the same as the Pastor Nominating Committee. The roles are different, although the Pastor Nominating Committee will benefit from the work the Transitional Team does.

### News from the Deacons:

The season of Lent is upon us!

The Deacons and Ministry of Worship are inviting everyone to participate in this special time of fellowship and learning on Wednesdays in March and April. Deacon dinners will begin at 6 P.M. Each Care Group will sponsor one meal, starting at 6 P.M. in Fellowship Hall. They will be followed by a Lenten class led by Pastor Kim, starting at 6:45 P.M. This is an excellent way to move towards Easter, learning together.

5 March (Ash Wednesday)

The Deacons will provide a pancake dinner.

A traditional Ash Wednesday service will follow the dinner, including the imposition of Ashes.

12 March	Care Group 1	Chili and Soup dinner	Class
19 March	Care Group 2	Italian dinner	Class
26 March	Care Group 3	Brats dinner	Class
2 April	Care Group 4	Mexican dinner	Class
9 April	Care Group 5	Potato Bar	Class

Your deacons will be asking families in their Care Groups to provide a dish on their assigned week.

A free will offering will be collected at each meal to raise money for the Deacon Fund. **This is the only way the Deacon Fund raises money to help our members.** Please be generous.

## **Lenten Bookmarks**

The Ministry of Worship will provide Lenten bookmarks, beginning on Sunday, 23 February. Please use these to remind yourselves about all the events happening during Lent, Holy Week, and Easter.

## **News From Our Service Ministries:**

### **MINISTRY OF ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL [MAP]**

Still looking for volunteers to bolster the Office Angels!!

### **MINISTRY OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS [MBG]**

A new dust pan was purchased for the kitchen, so now sweeping does not result in the pile simply sliding on through the one we previously had ;)

### **MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION [MCE]**

Will be meeting on March 3 at 5:00pm. If you're interested in helping plan Vacation Bible School, please contact Gary for the invitation to the Google Meet to join in virtually.

### **MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP [MOFS]**

Did you know that we have multiple ways to make donations? In the offering plate or by mail, via credit card where you can also offer to cover the service fee the credit card charges, or via Zelle, which does not have a service fee associated with it, but is essentially a payment sent electronically by your bank. If you're intrigued by one of these methods, but have questions, please reach out to Nancy.

### **MINISTRY OF MEMBERSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP [MMF]**

## **Potluck Cards**

In sincere consideration to members who have allergy concerns, we are introducing 'Potluck Cards'. These cards will be available at each potluck event, on the food table. Share your delicious dish by indicating the name of the dish, and check off possible allergies shown on the card. Include your name, so people can let you know how much they enjoyed it! Since this is a new endeavor, suggestions are welcomed to improve any information on the cards.

Thank you,

Gayle Downen, Sheila Moskowitz, Terrie Russell  
Ministry of Membership and Fellowship





ST. PAUL PRESBYTERIAN PRESENTS

# BINGO NIGHT

SATURDAY

2.22.2025

Come join us for this free fun bingo night for the whole family! We'll begin with a potluck dinner. Please bring an appetizer of your choice to share. It would help to bring something simple that people can grab and get back to their bingo game quickly. Examples: slices of pizza, sliders, pre-portioned bowls of food, mini sandwiches, finger foods. Drinks will be provided.

Also, please bring one unwrapped white elephant type gift for the prize table. Don't forget to invite your family and friends to join in on the fun!

**Potluck of Grab & Go Foods 6:00pm**  
**Bingo 6:30 - 8:00 PM**

OUR MC IS MICHELLE GIRARD  
HELPERS ARE APPRECIATED!

## **MINISTRY OF WORSHIP [MOW]**

**The sermon schedule will be as follows from now through Easter Sunday:**

- Feb. 23 – A sinful woman weeps at Jesus’ feet and is forgiven, Luke 7:36-50
- Mar. 2 – Transfiguration Sunday, Luke 9:28-45

**Lenten Sermon Schedule – The Parables of Jesus from the Gospel of Luke**

- March 9 – The first Sunday of Lent – Luke 10:25-42 (the Good Samaritan), Ps. 15
- March 16 – The Second Sunday of Lent - Luke 15:1-32 (parables of the lost sheep, lost coin, and lost son), Ps. 119:169-176
- March 23 – The Third Sunday of Lent - Luke 16:19-31 (the Rich man and Lazarus), Ps. 41:1-3
- March 30 – The Fourth Sunday of Lent - Luke 18:1-8 (the Widow and the Judge), Ps. 119:97-104
- April 6 – The Fifth Sunday of Lent – Luke 18:9-14 (the Pharisee and the Tax Collector), Ps. 65:1-5
- April 13 – Palm Sunday – Luke 19:29-44, Zech. 9:9
- April 20 – Easter Sunday – Luke 24:1-12, Ps. 118:1-2, 17-24

## **MINISTRY OF MISSION AND OUTREACH [MMO]**

**St Paul Presbyterian Church Food Pantry (part of MMO)**

St. Paul Newsletter 2/20/2025

January 31, 2025, Food Pantry Balance                    \$11,190.49

King Sooper Community Funds                            \$248.56 (Last quarter of 2024)

See Sue Shaw if you want to sign up for King Soopers Rewards to STPPC Food Pantry



Thank you to the St. Paul Presbyterian Church Youth for their participation in the *Souper Bowl of Caring* on Sunday, February 9, 2025. The 2 extra cans of food are courtesy of their efforts.

The above notice was shared with our clients. ***Thanks to the youth of St. Paul a full grocery cart of soup and other goods donated.*** Thank you to all who donated.

The Crownover's Girl Scouts saved us!! They brought in Girl Scout Cookie boxes. STPPC Food Pantry is solvent with boxes now.

I am still looking for someone to help with the pantry. But I appreciate all the support St. Paul congregation shows for the pantry. Volunteer at [FPGroup: FP Volunteer Signup](#).

Items needed: feminine products, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, and shampoo, detergent.

Please see the board next to the pantry for the monthly Client Newsletter, the QR code to sign up for distribution Tuesday, and other pantry information.

This is Food Bank of the Rockies latest update on federal support:

*While there are many unknowns at the federal level, I want to assure you that Food Bank of the Rockies is actively working to ensure as little disruption as possible to the food and resources you receive. As background, Food Bank of the Rockies partners with the federal government to administer the following programs: The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), Commodity Supplemental Food Program (Everyday Eats), Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), The Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program (LFPA), Summer Food Service Program (SUN Meals), Child and Adult Care Food Program, and SNAP Outreach. These programs make up approximately 15% of Food Bank of the Rockies' funding and 20% of our overall budget, including food distributed. Like you, we are deeply concerned about potential impacts to the neighbors we serve.*

## **Prayer Requests:**

- For Thea and her sister, who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer.



## Staying Connected

<b>Streamed &amp; Recorded Services:</b>	<a href="https://stppc.org/worship/">https://stppc.org/worship/</a>
<b>Ask for a Prayer Request:</b>	Email <a href="mailto:prayer-network@stppc.org">prayer-network@stppc.org</a> or <a href="mailto:pastor@stppc.org">pastor@stppc.org</a>
<b>Join Prayer Network Email List:</b>	Send email w/subject "Join List" to <a href="mailto:prayer-network@stppc.org">prayer-network@stppc.org</a>
<b>Food Pantry volunteer signup:</b>	<a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084faaa629a1ff2-fpvolunteer">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084faaa629a1ff2-fpvolunteer</a>
<b>View Church Calendar:</b>	<a href="https://stppc.org/whats-happening/church-calendar/">https://stppc.org/whats-happening/church-calendar/</a>
<b>Add to Church Calendar</b>	Send request to <a href="mailto:office@stppc.org">office@stppc.org</a>
<b>Submit to the Newsletter</b>	Send request to <a href="mailto:stpaulnews.auroraco@gmail.com">stpaulnews.auroraco@gmail.com</a>

## St. Paul Presbyterian's YouTube Channel

Scan this code with your smartphone to go to our YouTube channel or  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8VC2Q0iii62pJyIIntYmOQ>



## Offerings and Donations

<b>You may mail a check to:</b>	St. Paul Presbyterian Church 18901 E. Hampden Ave. Aurora, CO 80013
<b>Online Donation options:</b>	<a href="https://stppc.org/donations/">https://stppc.org/donations/</a>
<b>In person donations:</b>	Sunday during Worship or office during office hours

## Hours

<b>You may mail a check to:</b>	St. Paul Presbyterian Church 18901 E. Hampden Ave. Aurora, CO 80013
<b>Online Donation options:</b>	<a href="https://stppc.org/donations/">https://stppc.org/donations/</a>
<b>In person donations:</b>	Sunday during Worship or office during office hours
<b>Please note:</b> Our church office is run by volunteers. We appreciate your patience when we step away from the desk. If you reach voice mail, please leave your name/number, and who you are trying to reach so we can return your call. Thank you!	
<b>We recommend calling before you come!</b> We are not going to cover bad weather days and risk our volunteers driving and walking on ice.	

## Newsletter Submissions

Submission Deadline	Publishes
Tuesday, March 4, at noon	Thursday, March 6, 2025
Tuesday, March 18, at noon	Thursday, March 20, 2025
<b>Please send submissions to</b> <a href="mailto:stpaulnews.auroraco@gmail.com">stpaulnews.auroraco@gmail.com</a>	

# February Celebrations

If you have a birthday or anniversary in February we wish you the happiest of days!

<u>Happy Birthday</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>
Nancy Dixon	02/20
Colleen Green	02/20
David Bill Manoy	02/24
Doug Wetzel	02/25
Cheryl Wetzel	02/27
Victoria Crownover	03/04
Lillianna Turvin	03/11
Tom Frerichs	03/15
Kevin Morin	03/19
Connor Girard	03/20
Judy Straayer	03/21
Matthew Babcock	03/21
Isabella Wairama	03/22
Anne Gordon	03/22
Theresa Harris	03/27
Jenna Fidler	03/28
Joann Goss	03/30
Karen Petty	03/31

<u>Happy Anniversary</u>	<u>Marriage Date</u>
Erika & Sean Pepler	02/25
Gary & Victoria Crownover	03/24

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, we apologize.

Please leave a note in the church office, email [office@stppc.org](mailto:office@stppc.org), or call the church office at 303-693-3434 so we can make sure your birthday, anniversary, and other important information is recorded.

## **Refrigerator Reminder Page**

**Submit all calendar dates to [office@stppc.org](mailto:office@stppc.org)**

Full Calendar (all churches and activities) at: <https://stppc.org/whats-happening/church-calendar/>

THURS	2/20	11:30 am	Elderberries
FRI	2/21		<b>Office Closed</b>
SAT	2/22	6:00 pm	Bingo
SUN	2/23	9:00 am	Sunday School all ages
		10:15 am	Worship [Sanctuary & Live Stream]
		11:30 am	Congregational Meeting
MON	2/24	9:30 am	Food Pantry Setup
TUE	2/25	10:00 am	Food Pantry [Fellowship Hall]
		1:00 pm	Agape
WED	2/26	7:00 pm	Vocal Choir
THURS	2/27	6:30 pm	Deacon Meeting
FRI	2/28		<b>Office Closed</b>
		9:00 am	Men's Fellowship Breakfast
SAT	3/1		
SUN	3/2	9:00 am	Sunday School all ages
		10:15 am	Worship [Sanctuary & Live Stream]
		after worship	Food Pantry Box Packing
		11:30 am	Ministry of Membership and Fellowship
		11:30 am	Ministry of Buildings and Grounds
		11:30 am	Ministry of Mission and Outreach
MON	3/3	9:30 am	Food Pantry Setup
		5:00 pm	Ministry of Christian Education
TUE	3/4	10:00 am	Food Pantry [Fellowship Hall]
		1:00 pm	Agape
		Noon	St Paul News submission deadline [newsletter@stppc.org]
WED	3/5	6:00pm	Ash Wednesday Pancake Meal in Fellowship Hall
		7:00pm	Vocal Choir Rehearsal
THURS	3/6		St. Paul News publishes
		6:30 pm	Deacon's Meeting